GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2316
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2002
TALKS WITH SEPARATIST GROUPS
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are holding talks with different separatist groups of North Eastern States so that peace is restored in these States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of peace process initiated till now;

(c) whether these separatist organisations have placed any charter of demands before the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the salient features of their demands?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a)&(b): Union Government have entered into ceasefire agreements with National Socialist Council of Nagaland (I/M) faction {NSCN(I/M)} on 25th July, 1997 and with Khaplang faction {NSCN(K)} on 28th April, 2001In Assam, the Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) declared unilateral suspension of its operations against the Security Forces w.e.f. 14th July, 1999 and Union Home Minister announced suspension of its operations by the security forces against the BLT in the Parliament on 15th March, 2000. With the cessation of hostilities between militant groups and security forces, the level of violence has come down substantially. The Peace Talks have helped both sides in understanding and appreciating each other`s point of view.

One faction of United People`s Democratic Solidarity (UPDS) has also come forward and expressed its willingness to give up violence and to seek solution of its problem peacefully within the framework of Indian Constitution.

(c)&(d): Some proposals have been put forward by militant groups for enabling them to conduct their affairs according to their own genius customs and traditions and defining relationship between Government of India and themselves on various subjects.